

# Crime Victim Compensation: Serving Child and Adolescent Victims of Sexual Assault

Violent crime is a senseless, often random act, and we see far too much of it in today's society. It is no longer enough to ensure that offenders receive the harshest punishment under the law. Victims and their families need our support as they attempt to rebuild lives torn apart by tragedy.

- Attorney General Lisa Madigan

### What is the Crime Victims Compensation Act?

The Crime Victims Compensation Act offers financial assistance for victims of violent crime. As a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault in the State of Illinois, you may be eligible to receive compensation up to \$27,000 for the following expenses:

- Medical and Hospital Bills
- Temporary Lodging/Relocation
- Counseling
- Loss of Earnings
- Lost Tuition
- Replacement Costs
- Emergency Expenditures
- Prosthetic Appliances and Accessibility Costs
- Crime Scene Clean-up

#### What types of medical and hospital bills are covered?

Any medical bills related to the crime, including counseling, prescriptions, follow-up doctor visits, and appropriate dental work, are covered.

# What is included in temporary lodging and relocation costs?

The cost of a moving van rental, moving company or storage fees, shipping fees, first month's rent, and security deposits may be considered for reimbursement through the Crime Victims Compensation Act.

#### What is covered by tuition reimbursement?

The cost of tuition for any time missed during enrollment at a school or university due to a disability caused by a violent crime, or due to any court appearances resulting from the crime.

#### What are replacement costs?

Reimbursement is available for eyeglasses, for clothing/bedding used as evidence, and for locks/windows that were damaged as a result of the incident. The items must be replaced and receipts will be required.

# What are the requirements for me to be eligible for compensation?

- The crime must be reported to law enforcement officials within 7 days unless prevented by exceptional circumstances;
- The victim must cooperate with law enforcement officials in the apprehension and criminal prosecution of the offender and with the Office of the Attorney General to verify expenses;
- The victim must exhaust all sources of financial recovery (i.e., health insurance, Public Aid, etc.); and
- The victim must not have contributed to his/her injury by engaging in wrongful conduct or provocation.

#### Does the victim or claimant need to be a U.S. citizen?

No. The victim or claimant does not need to be a U.S. citizen to be eligible for compensation.

# How do I file a claim?

To file a claim, contact the Crime Victims Compensation Bureau at (800) 228-3368.

To obtain statewide service referrals or check the status of your compensation claim, please contact our office at:

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan Crime Victims Compensation Bureau 100 W. Randolph Street, 13th Floor Chicago, Illinois 60601 (800) 228-3368 www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov

Visit our Web site at www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov.



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